AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for synthesizing speech with an apparatus comprising a sound source for generating a frequency signal, a vocal tract filter for filtering said frequency signal to generate a speech waveform signal, said filter having characteristics corresponding to a linear predictive coefficient calculated from respective phonemes in a phoneme series, comprising the steps of:

inputting the phoneme series into the apparatus;

dividing each of said phonemes into N frames, each of said N frames having a predetermined time length;

summing squares of speech samples in each of said N frames as a frame power value for each frame, respectively;

standardizing frame power values at head and tail frames in one phoneme to predetermined values, respectively, to obtain a standardized frame power value of an n-th frame, wherein ($1 < n < N$);

summing squares of signal levels of an n-th frame in said frequency signal to obtain a frame power correction value for the n-th frame; and

~~providing~~ calculating a speech envelope signal by means of a function ~~having~~ comprising variables of said standardized frame power value of the n-th frame and said frame power correction value for the n-th frame, and

outputting an amplitude adjusted waveform signal by adjusting an amplitude level of said speech waveform signal based on the speech envelope signal.

2. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

providing power frequency characteristics based on said linear predictive coefficient corresponding to said n-th frame, and

calculating an average value of power values sampled from said power frequency characteristics at a predetermined frequency interval as a mean frame power value for the n-th frame,

~~calculating said speech envelope signal by means of a~~wherein the function ~~having~~ further comprises ~~variables of said standardized frame power value for the n-th frame, said frame power correction value for the n-th frame and~~ a variable of said mean frame power value for the n-th frame., ~~and~~

~~adjusting an amplitude of said speech waveform signal based on said speech envelope signal.~~

3. (previously presented): A method according to claim 2, wherein said function is expressed;

$$V_m = \sqrt{P_n / (G_s G_f)}$$

wherein P_n is said standardized frame power value for the n-th frame, G_s is said frame power correction value for the n-th frame, and G_f is said mean frame power value for the n-th frame.

4. (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein said frequency signal includes an impulse signal carrying a voiced sound and a noise signal carrying an unvoiced sound.

5. (new): The method according to claim 1, wherein the standardized frame power value of an n-th frame is expressed;

$$P_n = P_c / [(1-r) \times P_a + r \times P_b];$$

wherein $r = (n - 1)/N$;

wherein P_c is the frame power value for the n-th frame, P_a is the head frame power value and P_b is the tail frame power value.

6. (new): The method according to claim 1, wherein the phoneme is a string comprising at least one consonant C and at least one vowel V.

7. (new): The method according to claim 6, wherein the string is one of CV, CVC and VCV.